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NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1871 .- TRIPLE SHEET.

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND HOMELESS PER-

SONS APPEALING FOR AID. MILLIONAIRES RENDERED PENNILESS IN A DAY -ALL THE PRINCIPAL BANKS, WHOLESALE

CHICAGO IN ASHES.

AND RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS, NEWSPAPER OFFICES, AND A SCORE OF CHURCHES DE-STROYED-MANY VESSELS BURNED-THE FIRE

CHICAGO, Oct. 9.- The most terrible confiagration that ever occurred in the United States has been in progress in this city for nearly 24 hours, laying the whole business portion of the city and one-lifth of all the buildings in ashes.

The fire broke out last evening, between 9 and 10 o'clock, in a barn in West Taylor-st., and, owing to the inflammable nature of its contents, the building was wrapped in flames before the firemen arrived. From this insignificant source sprang this terrible

The portion of the city where the fire originated was built up almost entirely of wooden buildings, closely packed together, tenanted by carpenters, cabinet-makers, coopers, varnish manufacturers, interspersed with lumber yards and stores of other equally inflammable materials. The wind was blowing a terrible gale and the devouring element spread so rapidly that all attempts to stay its ravages

The fire soon reached Clark-st., upon which the greater portion of the fine business blocks were situated, all of which are destroyed., The Court-House, which was 20 years in building, was swept away in Cominutes. The Sherman House, opposite the Court-House, the new Pacific Hotel, which was soon to be opened, and said to be the largest in the world; and, indeed, every hotel in city is swallowed up in the sea of fire. When the fire reached State-st., toward the Lake, an attempt was made to stay its progress by blowing up the buildings in the vicinity of Field, Leiters & Co.'s magnificent dry goods establishment but this only seemed to add to the fury of the flames. From State-st, the fire advanced with unabated fury to the North Division, and scarcely a vestige of the 8,000 buildings on that side of the river is left. Taking a south-easterly direction, the fire swept through Madison-ave. and Monroe-st., extending a distance of about one mile and a quarter. devouring in its advance The Tribune building, Crosby's Overa-House, McVicker's Theater, and hundreds of the finest business houses in the city. West of the Court-House, embracing Lasalle, Wells, and South Water-sts., upon which a very large portion of the business was concentrated, everything is swept clean. The space burnt over covers an area of more than five square miles, while the value of the property destroyed is simply to be conjectured, some placing it at \$100,000,000, and others even more than

It was about 1 o'clock this morning when the fire crossed the river at Adams-st. bridge and soon destroyed the gas works, and then spread itself in every direction. More than one-half the population are now pushing through the streets in vehicles, which are obtained at enormous prices, on foot, and in every other way, with the choicest household treasures in their arms and on their backs in utter confusion, not knowing whither to go. Fearful suffering must follow, and almost immediately. Full 100,000 people are at this moment homeless and houseless, not knowing where to lay their heads or get anything to satisfy the cravings of hunger,

At noon, the whole business portion of the city the river to Lake-ave., was devastated, embracing a district three miles in length to a mile or a mile and a half in width. The flames swept through the city with the rapidity of a prairie fire, and many persons must have perished.

At this hour (5 p.m.) the awful work of destruction still goes on with relentless fury. From Harrison-st. in the south to Division-st. in the north, and from the river to the lake, an area of four miles long by one mile wide, the flames have swept everything be-

The streets in the districts still unburned are lined for miles with such household goods as have been saved from destruction. Most generous offers of assistance in money, food, or anything wanted are coming in from almost every city and town throughout the country by telegraph. The Mayor has responded to several offers, asking that cooked food be provided as soon as possible. Firemen are on their way here from Cincinnati, St. Louis, and other cities. The water works are entirely destroyed. Buildings are now being blown up on the line of the

fire to attempt to arrest its progress. It is believed that the spread of the fire southward will soon be stayed at Harrison-st.; but on the north side there is no diminution of its fury, and the entire division of the city is evidently doomed to utter destruction. There are grave fears that the flames may spread to the west side of the north branch of the river, and the inhabitants of the streets nearest the river are already moving to places, it is supposed, of greater safety. The Western Union Telegraph Company have now six wires, working east and south, running into a temporary office at the corner of State and Sixteenthsts. The North-Western Railroad Company are running trains on both its branches, which are crowded with fleeing citizens. It is now positively asserted by some that the water-works are still intact, but the water has been shut off from the South and West Divisions, on account of the quantity being used on the north side. A trustworthy gentleman, just arrived from the North Diwision, brings the joyful intelligence that the waterworks are uninjured. God grant that it may prove

It is impossible now to give even an approximately correct statement of the lesses, but a faint idea may be formed when it is stated that every bank in the city except two small savings institutions, one on Twenty-second-st. in South Division, and one on Randolph-st. in West Division, is destroyed. All wholesale stores, all retail establishments, the Post-Office, the Court-House, the Chamber of Commerce, every hotel in South Division except Michigan-ave. Hotel, which, standing on the extreme southern limit, escaped, though it is badly scorched, every newspaper office (The Tribune building which was supposed to be fire-proof having finally succumbed), every theater, the six largest elevators, the immense

depots of the Michigan Southern and of the Illinois Central Railroads (both the passenger and freight depots of the latter), more than a score of churches, and much of the shipping in the river-all are de-

Men who were millionaries yesterday morning, are nearly penniless to-day; but more terrible than all is the awful certainty that many human beings have perished in the flames-how many, no one can Perhaps no one will ever be able to tell; but it is known that some have perished, and there is only a heart-sickening fear that the victims of the fiery monster may be counted by scores.

Hundreds of horses and cows have been burned in stables, and on the north side numbers of animals. though released from confinement, were so bewildered and confused by the sea of fire which surrounded them that they rushed wildly to and fro, attering cries of fright and pain until scorched and

Any attempt at a description of the scenes of this appalling calamity would be idle. The simple fact that the once great City of Chicago is nearly de stroyed, that hundreds of millions of active capital here have vanished, and that nearly one-third of Chicago's inhabitants are houseless, is enough Any attempt to embellish would be a mockery.

As this awful day draws to a close thousands of anxious eyes watch the clouds of smoke, which still roll over the burned district, with evident dread that a sudden change of wind may turn the flames upon that portion of the city yet There seems, however, little cause for apprehension, and reënforcements of firemen from other cities are constantly arriving Col. F. F. Wilson, Superintendent of the Telegraph. is in receipt of dispatches from leading cities announcing that aid will soon be provided for the sufferers. Col. Clowry of St. Louis telegraphs that \$70,000 have been subscribed by the merchants there. Cincinnati promises \$200,000, and Cleveland is proportionately generous. All this and a great deal more will be needed to relieve the immediate press-

Everything is doing by Gen. Stager and his assistants to keep up communications for the citizens and press with the world outside. Col. Geo. T. Williams, Superintendent at Cincinnati, reported promptly for duty this morning. About three-fourths of the United States mail was saved and taken possession of by Col. Wood of the Post-Office service.

LATER.-The flames in the South Division were finally arrested by blowing up and demolishing several buildings on Wabash-ave. and Congress-st., by Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan. The District burned over in the South Division embraces everything from the main branch of the Chicago River to the Lake, and covering about one hundred blocks. district contained all the business houses, the banks, insurance offices, hotels, &c.; also a large number of churches, including St. Mary's, Trinity, First Presbyterian, Second Presbyterian, St. Paul, Swedenborgian, &c. The Methodist Church, on the corner of Wabash-ave. and Congressst., is saved. The Michigan Avenue Hotel, on corner of Michigan-ave. and Congress-st., and the Congress Hall, directly adjoining, on Congress-st., are saved. Michigan-terrace, on Michiganave., embracing the residences of Gov. Bross, the Hon. John Young Scammon, S. C. Griggs, Peter L. Ross, and other leading citizens, is completely de-

All the newspaper establishments are totally wiped out. The Tribune building resisted the fire for several hours, but finally yielded, when McVicker's Theater, immediately adjoining, which also withstood the raging element, wholly succumbed. In fact, all the buildings in the district which claimed to be fire-proof shared the same fate of those which could make no such claims. The great Central depot at the foot of Lake-st. became a heap of ruins. About 9 o'clock this morning most of the passenger cars of the Michigan Central, Burlington and Quincy, and Illinois Central Railroad were moved on the breakwater and saved. West of Clark-st., in the southern division, the fire extended outh as far as Polk-st., sweeping everything before it. The distance burned over here is some three blocks wide and over half a mile in length, numbering about 20 blocks. The buildings were generally of the cheaper characfrom Harrison-st. north to Chicago-ave., and east of ter, embracing saloons, small shops, poor residences. mences at Taylor-st., running from De Koren to Jefferson. The fire ran thence four or five blocks north, and then moved [diagonally toward the river, and, finally, the west limit established on Clinton-st., and reaching thence to the river. in this line northward until it reached the North-Western and West Side depots, where it stopped, a distance of nearly two miles from where it started. The Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago, and Chicago and St. Louis Railroad depots were in this district, and are destroyed.

Almost the entire Northern Division, from the nain branch of the Chicago River to Lincoln Park, nearly two miles in length and one mile in width, is completely destroyed, including the water works, a arge number of elegant churches, &c. This district embraces almost the entire business portion of

The territorp south of Harrison-st., in the south division, reaching out many miles, and covered almost entirely with dwellings, mostly of the better class, is untouched, and may now be regarded as safe from injury.

For miles and miles, in every direction, the side walks, lawns, vacant lots, and front yards of dwellings are filled with people who have escaped from burning houses, taking with them only a scanty amount of furniture and clothing. The sight is truly a harrowing one. These people must receive immediate relief, or many will perish from exposure and starvation.

As already stated, it is utterly impossible to make an approximate estimate of the entire loss, but it can scarcely fall below \$150,000,000. Of course, but fraction of this amount can be recovered from

Gen. Sheridan has to-day telegraphed to St. Louis, to the Missouri depot there, to send at once 100,000 rations. He has also telegraphed to Omaha for two companies of soldiers and 100 tents. He will also order another 100,000 rations.

Mayor Mason has issued a proclamation calling a neeting to-night in the West Division to see what the citizens can do for the relief of the sufferers. There are at least 100,000 people who know not where they can enough provisions to satisfy their hunger.

A later rumor from the North Division says the devastation is less widespread than heretofore reported. There are no deaths reported by the disaster as yet, but undoubtedly many have perished.

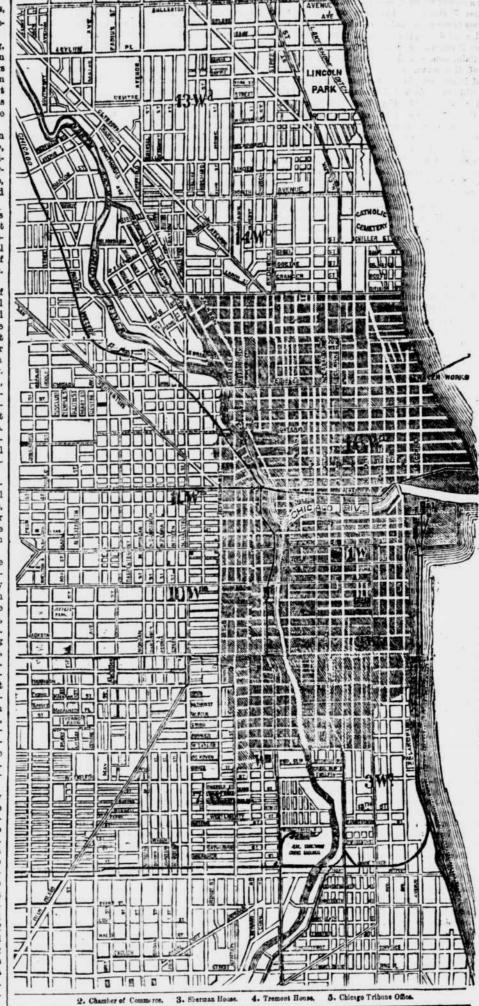
CHICAGO EVIDENTLY DOOMED.

CHANGE OF WIND SWEEPING THE FLAMES TOWARD THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE CITY - TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION CUT

ASSOCIATED PRESS OFFICE, NEW-YORK, Oct. 9-11:30 p. m.

The telegraph office improvised in the southern part of Chicago, as it was supposed beyond the reach of the flames, has been abandoned, and communication with the city is again suspended. It is expected that another office will be opened during the night at a point two miles south of the last

place of refuge. The operators, before leaving their instruments, reported that the wind had veered around to the north and was driving the flames back and southward. The fire had already reached the neighborMAP OF THE BURNED DISTRICT IN CHICAGO.



flee. Their last words were, "There now appears no hope of saving the southern portion of the city."

MEASURES FOR RELIEF.

ARMY RATIONS ORDERED BY THE PRESIDENT. WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 9 .- The fire at Chieago excites intense interest throughout the city, especially among gentlemen from that locality. In addition to the Press telegrams, Gen. Myer of the Signal Service has been receiving dispatches from time to time regarding the conflagration. On reading them this morning President Grant requested Secretary Belknap to telegraph to Gen. Sheridan, saying it was the President's wish that Gen. Sheridan issue provisions and clothing to the sufferers from the supplies he has at his disposal, and, if these prove insufficient, to call on the military auhorities at St. Louis for the same purpose.

Among the latest dispatches received from Chicago

this afternoon was one from Gen. Sheridan to the Secre tary of War, stating that the army offices there had been lestroyed, with all the public records, together with other details, all of which have been reiterated in the dispatches of the Associated Press. Among the latest telegrams to the War Department was the following:

"To the Secretary of War: At an immense mass meeting held here for the relief of Chicago, hundreds of thousands of dollars were subscribed. This meeting requests that the Secretary of War furnish tents, blankets, and food from the Government stores at Jeffersonville, and food from the Government stores at Jeffersonville."C. M. ROWLAND, "President Chamber o

The Secretary reported that he had already authorized Gen. Sherman to furnish necessary supplies. Secretary Belknap has ordered tents, clothing, blankets, rations and, in fact, everything in the control of the War De partment, to be furnished to the sufferers. The amount of Government money in the vaults of the Sub-Treasury at Chicago is about \$2,000,000, \$500,000 of which is in gold, and the remainder in paper. No reports have been received at the Treasury Department concerning these

TIMELY ACTION OF CINCINNATI-THOUSANDS OF POUNDS OF BREAD, CRACKERS, BEEF AND CHEESE, AND 2,000 BLANKETS EN ROUTE TO

THE SUFFERERS. CINCINNATI, Ohio, Oct. 9 .- The great fire in Chicago monopolizes all attention, and business is en-tirely suspended. The great calamity moves every heart. The citizens' meeting at the Chamber of Commerce was largely attended. Committees on Transpor tation and Finance were appointed, and subscriptions and cash payments were at once received. The Chamber of Commerce gave \$5,000. Many leading firms gave \$1,000 each. At 12 o'clock \$25,000 had been sub-The Hamilton and Dayton, and Indianapolis and Lafar ette Railroad Companies have offered to transport all supplies free of charge. In accordan Davis sends a dispatch to all the cities and towns along the railroad to collect supplies to be taken free. Blankets and clothing will be ted and sent to-day in large quantities, also cooked food. The Committee will leave for Chicago at 5 o'clock this evening. At the Preachers' meeting this morning tions of sympathy were adopted, declaring that they would call on their congregations to cooperate with the authorities in affording immediate relief.

LATER.-A special train will leave here to-night, conveying a Committee offthe citizens, and four car-loads of provisions, consisting in part of 10,000 pounds of cheese, 10,000 pounds of dried beef, 50,000 loaves of bread, 200 barrels of crackers, and 2,000 blankets. The train will run at passenger speed. Donations of provisions continue be made and will be promptly forwarded.

West and South-West of liberal subscriptions of money and provisions for the sufferers at Chicago. Trains laden with fire engines and provisions are en route from all points with promises of more to follow. Wheeling, Co-

d. Toledo, Detroit, Indianapolis, Terre Haute, Evansville, Memphis, and Nashville, as well as larger cities, are contributing liberally. Mr. Halstead of The Commercial shipped to The Tribuns

a full font of distributed type to-night. The newspaper establishments have made liberal contributions in money SEVENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS RAISED IN ST.

St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 9 .- A mass meeting of the citizens was held at the Merchants' Exchange, today. It was the largest meeting ever held here. People of all classes and conditions poured in to express sym-pathy and contribute aid. Some \$70,000 was raised in the space of one hour. The meeting is still in session. Committees have been appointed to canvass the city for money, food, and clothing. By night there will probably be cooked provisions enough ready to load a train.

Another meeting will be held to-night. The Merchants' Exchange subscribed \$10,000, and many firms and individuals from \$500 to \$1,000 each.

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS RAISED IN

BUFFALO-BAKERS ORDERED TO WORK NIGHT AND DAY UNTIL FURTHER ORDERS.

BUFFALO, Oct. 9 .- The City Council, at a regular meeting this afternoon, authorized the issue of \$100,000 of city bonds for the immediate use of the Chicago sufferers. A Committee of the Council leave toight with a car-load of provisions for Chicago. The officers and exhibitors at the International Industrial Exhibition raised 10,000 loaves of bread, to be forwarded at once for the relief of the sufferers. Owens's bakery, the largest in the city, has been authorized by the city officials to commence without delay, and bake night and day, until further orders, for Chicago. The excitement here is intense, and the sympathy of the citizens of all MONEY APPROPRIATED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF

ELIZABETH, N. J. ELIZABETH, N. J. Oct. 9 .- The City Council met to-night and voted an appropriation of \$1,000, to be forwarded to the Mayor of Chicago, toward relieving the sufferers by the great fire. They also passed resolutions of sympathy, and adjourned without doing any business,

after Senator Willey, the President, had appointed a com mittee to collect donations from the citizens for the same TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS SUBSCRIBED IN

Oswego, Oct. 9.-The members of the Osego Board of Trade have contributed \$2,000 to

Chicago sufferers.

ACTION IN OTHER CITIES. The municipal authorities, the Boards of Trade, and Ibusiness men generally in all the principal cities of the Union, have taken steps to form relief to collect subscriptions and forward food and clothing for the sufferers. Public meetings for this pur oes will be held to-day in Philadelphia, Bostor, Balti tore, Albany, Syracuse, Saratoga, and Poughkeepeis.

THE BURNED BUILDINGS.

The Court-House, occupying the central square in the city, was an imposing edifice built in 1865 of Lockport limestone. Its tower commanded a fine view of the city and lake.

of Washington and La Salle-sta. When completed, in August, 1865, it had cost \$400,000. It was built of Athens marble, in the Italian style of architecture. Its outsid dimensions were 181 feet in length by to feet in width, nd the hall of the Board of Trade was 148 feet long 86 feet wide, and 45 feet high.

The building of the Young Men's Christian Association n Madison-st., near La Salle, included Parwell Hall, and contained several stores, a hotel, counting ro the offices of a charitable association, to whi

The Michigan Southern Railroad Depot we

derbilt Depot excepted) the finest building on this Continent devoted to railway purposes. It was built of

see size. It was the terminus of several ratiron The Custom-House and Post-Office building, at Monroe and Dearborn-sta, was a large and handsome buildin of Athens marble, built on the plan of the building

devoted to the same purpose at Cleveland, Detroit, and

Toledo.

The First and Second Presbyterian Churches, on Wabanaye, were among the finest buildings in the country devoted to religious worship. The First, near Van Burén et., was built in 1889 at a cost of \$100,000. Unity Church, at the corner of Whitney and North Dearborn-sta, was famous as the scene of the labors of

the Rev. Robert Collyer. The Dearborn Theater, on Dearborn-st., between Madison and Washington-sta, was a very handsome structure used as a minstrel hail. Lately it has been occupied by

Manning's Minstrel Troupe.

Farwell Hall, on Madison, between Clark and La Sallests., was one of the largest halls in the United States,

and is said to have accommedated 4,000 people.

Alken's Museum, on Randelph, between Clark and Dearborn-sta., combined with its halls filled with colections of rarities, a pretty little theater celebrat the birthplace of many of the sensational pieces of the

McVicker's Theater, on Madison-st., between State and Dearborn-sts., was the principal theater of the city, and was visited yearly by the prominent stars of the dramatic profession. It will probably be rebuilt on the model of Booth's Theater of this city.

The Sherman House, one of the handsomest and largest hotels in the West, was built in 1860, of Athens marble, at a cost of \$400,000. It had a frontage of 340 feet on Randolph-sa, and 340 feet on Clark-st. The Briggs House was likewise a handsome building, as also was the Metropolitan Hotel.

The Crosby Opera House, the beauty and value of which was bruited about when it became the chief prize in a lottery, stood on Washington-st., between State and Dearborn-sts. It had a front of 140 feet on Washingtonst., and ran back 179 feet. The building was completed in 1865 at a cost of \$450,000.

THE EXCITEMENT IN THIS CITY.

The news of the great Chicago fire excited resterday, in this city, the greatest interest, not unmixed with consternation, in view of the probable financial results. The excitement in the business portion of the city was scarcely surpassed by that of the most eventful times of the war. One word alone-Chicagoseemed to be the beginning of every sentence. It was shouted by the newsboys, buzzed by dealers in tocks, and whispered by bankers and startled insurance agents. The most callous stranger could not have walked twenty yards in any of the principal business streets without being made ware that something had gone wrong. The nearest newspaper office, telegraph bulletin, news-board, or crowd would soon have informed him what was the natter. At their breakfast tables the merchants and bankers learned that a terrible conflagration was raging in Chicago; on their desks in their counting-houses tele grams awaited them of dire import—the news that the whole business part of the city was destroyed, and that the fire was then spreading and beyond control. At the Stock Exchange the excitement was intense. Stocks fell from 10 to 5 per cent without the entering of a transaction, Western Union Telegraph stock taking a prominent place in the tumble. Business was almost at a standstill. Operations in Western stocks were difficult. Dealers paid much more attention to rumors and telegraph boys than to quotations; and, with ominous looks, discussed the possible and probable effect of the calamity.

"Sir," said a prominent dealer; "this is the signal for the bursting of one of the most awful bubbles the world has ever known. Chicago owes and is owed money all over the world. New-York can't pay Chicago's losses. Who then is going to ! Not London! London has just raised the rate of discount from two to five per cent. the raised it last Saturday. Thursday is the regular meeting day of the Bank. When they raise the rate on other day in the week, London merchants and ankers prepare for storms—especially at five per cent. No, Sir ; this calamity will bring on the most awful panio

this country has ever known." These remarks were made publicly and seemed to be oncurred in by the assembled crowd. Jay Cook & Co hought it the most terrible calamity that had ever happened to this country, with the exception of the war The effect on the Western Fail trade must be disastrous let alone the fearful losses in produce, goods, and buildings. So far they thought the New-York Stock market had stood very well, though there had been comparatively

The money market was very active at 7 per cent until after bank hours, when the rate was advanced to per cent per diem, with brokers eager to berrow at have to be sent out West. It would be a long time before

the real state of things could be known. The great center of excitement was of course among the various New-York Insurance Companies which have agencies in Chicago. The Presidents and Managers were, however, all very reticent; and invariably replied to any inquiries that might be made that they had not any information further than had been publish Adriatic and some other companies asserted that they had seme time since ceased to take Chicago risks and had withdrawn their agencies. This action was mainly deermined by the competition of certain new companies which would not be accepted here under 14 or 2 per cent are taken in England at i to i of one per cent; and this principle has to a great extent been introduced here by these English companies. About two ago, the State Legislature of Illinois assed a law requiring all foreign insurance companie doing business in the State to deposit \$200,000 in the State Treasury. Only two foreign companies compiled with this law—the Liverpool, London and Globe, and the North British and Mercantile-and they have both suf-

fered heavily by the fire. The President of one of the leading Fire Insurance Companies said, yesterday: "It is impossible to form any approximate estimate of the loss at present. Those who have suffered most are most interested in conceal ing their losses. Of this I am certain company in Chicago is gone; a large portion of those in New-York baving agencies in Chicago be seriously crippled. For some time we have not liked Chicago, and have reduced monthly premiums from \$3,500 to \$300 a month. But terrible as it is, this fire will have a beneficial effect on the principle of insurance and on those companies which are to breast the sterm. Insurance rates have been demoralized by competition and quarrels among insurance men till they were far too low." In answer to the reporter's inquiry as to his opinion as to the probable loss in Chicago, the gentlemen eplied that, without wishing to underrate the calamity, he could not but think that its extent had been unduly exaggerated. "Our own company," said he, "have a loss to write off; but it is not a heavy one, and, if the worst comes to the worst, we can show a very handsome sum to begin again with. In fact, this Chicago fire can not break us-far from it."

AT THE STOCK EXCHNGE. Pandemonium broken loose seemed to be

calized yesterday in the mad caperings of the masses of humanity who in the guise of stock brokers, make the Stock Exchange ring with their frightful shricks and howls. Panie appeared to pervade the stm well as ro characterize the countenances of the dealers. Early in the morning the effect of the run on the Third Avenue Bank and the Chicago ure was perceptible in the nervous movements of the stock operators who were bulling" the market. The disposition to sell was ac celerated by the raid of the bears, who saw rtunity and availed themselves of it. their opportunity and svanou supposed to be The Vanderbitt clique were supposed to be largely "long" of stocks, and interested largely "cong" of stocks, and interested in all the leading railways running out of Chicago. At an early hour in the morning the market began to take a rapid downward course, which was accelerated by the istent hammering of the bears. New-York Central and Hudson, which sold at 924 in the morning, swiftly escended to st, rellying again late in the day, an slosing at 878. New-York Central and Hudson certifiates, which opened at \$7\$, declined to \$3\$, and closed at \$0\$. Erie, the feot-ball of Wall-st., began to move in the morning at 304 dropped to 26, and re-mained at the latter figures. Lake Shore opened at 1064, and declined to 364, closing at 364. Hanibal and 38. Joseph, Tammany's latest scheme for making money, and largely dealt in by the City Hall officials, dropped

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

THE FRAUDS REVEALED. REPORTS OF THE CYTIZENS INVESTIGATING

COMMITTER IMMENSE SUMS PAID FOR SERVICES UNPER-FORMED AND MATERIALS UNFURNISHED-UNKNOWN OFFICERS DRAWING LARGE SALARIES-BILLS FRAUDULENTLY INCREASED FOURFOLD - GOVERNMENT EXPENSE TEN TIMES WHAT IT SHOULD BE-DEBT DOUBLED EVERY TWO YEARS -- THE MAYOR HELD

RESPONSIBLE. The Joint Investigating Committee of Aldermen, Supervisors, and Citizens met in the room of the Supervisors in the County Court-House yesterday at 3 o'clock, and the Citizens submitted the reports which they have been preparing for two months past. Full and accurate copies of these important documents, the most valuable yet developed by the investigation into the frauds of the Ring, and compiled only after great labor and care, are published below.

The Committee of Citizens who make these startling exhibits of the desperate and corrupt condition to which the City Government has been reduced by three years of "Ring rule," are men selected by the Ring leaders themselves at the suggestion of Mayor Hall, chief among them, and in answer to the public clamor which has been raised at the extravagance of the City and County Government and the peculations of its administrators. The Committee is composed of business men of the highest repute, men who have kept aloof from politics, and who have entered upon the investigation as commercial men. and who now conclude their labors, for the present, with reports of a purely financial and business character. The report on the City and County appropriations was prepared by Mr. William E. Warren, well known as a former Deputy Controller, and a gentleman more familiar perhaps than any other in New-York with the system on which the finances of New-York have been conducted, and the origin, relations. and powers of the several City and County Departments and Bureaus. The names of the gentlemen of the Committee are sufficient guarantees of their impartiality and honesty in the investigation they have conducted and the verdict of guilty which they now pronounce against the Ring. The names are as fol-

Royal Phelps, Robert Lenox, P. Bissinger, Paul N. Spofford, Samuel Willets.

Wm. A. Booth, James Brown, Courtlandt Palmer, B. L. Solomon, John K. Porter, Thos. W. Pearsall, Wm. E. Dodge. The several reports submitted yesterday by the

Citizens' Committee comprise: I. Mr. Wm. A. Booth's report. II. Report on the Armories.

III. Report on the City and County Appropriations and Expenditures.

IV. Report on the pay rolls. V. Report on the Schuyler frauds.

As will be seen these reports are voluminous, and they will be found on examination to be comprehensive and conclusive. They establish beyond any reasonable doubt of any impartial mind several most damning facts. They show

L That the City Debt is practically

\$120,000,000. II. That not merely extravagance but "fraud and peculations of the grossest character have been practiced in several departments" with the knowledge of their heads.

III. That the Debt has been doubled every two years since 1869.

IV. That the Mayor is responsible for the continuation of the wholesale robbery of the City.

V. That it costs nearly as much (\$30,000,000) a year to run the Government of this city as to ad-VI. That while \$3,221,865 62 were paid for

Armory repairs, &c., the actual expenditure was not more than \$202.463 00. In other words the Ring stole on Armory accounts alone \$3,099,469 69.

vices unperformed to men unknown in the offices from which they drew their salaries. VIII. That the Schuyler frauds, by which the bills

VII. That immense sums have been paid for ser-

of one contractor were raised from \$48,000 to \$463,000, were committed through the connivance of William

REPORT OF THE HON. WILLIAM A. BOOTH, CHAIRMAN.

To the Chairman of the Joint Committee of Supervisor. and Aldermen appointed to investigate the Public Accounts
of the City and County of New-York: The Committee of Tax-paying Citizens who were appointed to make a thorough and exhaustive examination of the Public Accounts with the aid of experts, under their imme diate supervision, and give the result of their investigations to the people of the City and State respectfully

REPORT

That, concurring in the appeal addressed to them, "that the good name of our city, its prosperity, and every interest dear to its people, must suffer from liels so gross, and attacks so false and exaggerated. they at once addressed themselves earnestly to the work which was assigned them, and have heretof prepared a statement of the debt of the city and ounty, and the condition of the Sinking Fund, taken from the books in the Controller's office, which they believe to be perfectly accurate, which stateme has already been published

Pursuing their investigations into the details of the accounts and of the bills which have been paid by the Controller during the past two and a half years, your Committee find that immense sums have been paid for services which have not been performed, for materials which have not been furnished and to employée who are unknown in the office from which they draw their salaries. Also, that parties having just claims upon the city, failing to obtain payment therefor, have assigned their claims to persons officially or otherwise connected with differ ent departments, who have in many instances fraudulently increased their amounts, and drawn four fold the money actually due from the city. Thus it appears in the accounts that hundreds of thouse of dellars have been paid to private parties who positively deny the receipt of the money, or any nowledge whatever of the false bills repres large sums paid to them. These investiga pel the belief that not only the most reckless ex-travagance, but frauds and peculations of the grossest character have been practiced in several of the departments, and that these must have been som-mitted in many instances with the knowledge and tion of those appointed, and whose sw juty it was and is to guard and protect the public

Your Committee composed of merchants and bust sess men have had little experience in public or political affairs, but in the management of extensive business and monetary institutions and interests. they have had large experience. The practical test which they are led to apply to the expenses of carrying on the machinery and operations of the Muni-

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